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DECAPTIONED

E.O. 12065: GDS 1/16/80 (CASTRO, RAUL E.) OR-M
TAGS: AR, SHUM, BENT, EAGR, OCON
SUBJECT: USG AND GOA RELATIONS

1. ENTIRE TEXT.

2. IMMEDIATELY ON RETURN FROM HOME-LEAVE, I CONTACTED GENERAL VIOLA, NOW RETIRED MEMBER OF JUNTA AND ARMY, TO SEEK AN AUDIENCE. I MET WITH HIM LAST NIGHT AND WE COVERED WATER-FRONT REFERENCE STATUS OF USG-GOA RELATIONS. IT IS ACCEPTED IN ALL QUARTERS VIOLA WILL SUCCEED VIDELA AS PRESIDENT IN 1981. SUBJECTS DISCUSSED FOLLOW:

3. DETERIORATION OF USG-GOA RELATIONS: VIOLA APPEARED DEEPLY PERTURBED ABOUT ADVERSE TURN OF EVENTS IN USG-GOA RELATIONS.

HE ATTRIBUTED THESE EVENTS TO LACK OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN EXECUTIVES AND FOMINS OF BOTH COUNTRIES. VIOLA STATED IT WAS IMPERATIVE A DIALOGUE BE ESTABLISHED ASAP BETWEEN PRESIDENT CARTER AND PRESIDENT VIDELA. HE STATED SAME HOLDS TRUE OF SECT. VANCE AND FOMIN PASTOR. VIOLA REAFFIRMED ARGENTINE SENSITIVITIES TO NOT BEING CONSULTED PRIOR TO THE OCCURRENCE OF AN ACT. AT THIS MOMENT THERE ARE A FEW HURT FEELINGS. HE FIRMLY EXPRESSED BOTH USG AND GOA CANNOT FORM THEIR POLICY BASED ON PAST ACTS. VIOLA INSISTED IT IS IMPERATIVE

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
(X) Release () Excise () Deny
Exemption(s): NR
Declassify: () In Part (X) In Full
() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to
Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reason _____

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BOTH COUNTRIES LOOK AT EACH OTHER ON CONDITIONS AS THEY EXIST NOW AND LOOK INTO THE FUTURE. HE ADDED EFFORT MUST BE MADE TO LOOK FOR SOLUTIONS AND NOT KEEP REFERRING TO ERRORS OF THE PAST.

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5. GENERAL GALTIERI: VIOLA STATED HE HAD ALREADY SPOKE TO GENERAL GALTIERI, WHO WILL MEET WITH ME THIS FRIDAY (JAN.18), AND ASKED HIM TO MAINTAIN CLOSE TIES WITH ME. VIOLA MENTIONED GALTIERI WOULD RECEIVE ME WHENEVER NEED DICTATED IT. HE EMPHASIZED GALTIERI IS THE ARMY REPRESENTATIVE IN JUNTA AND WILL ALSO BE RESPONDING TO SOME EXTENT TO VIOLA'S THOUGHTS.

6. HUMAN RIGHTS: VIOLA EXPRESSED SERIOUS CONCERN OVER DEPT'S HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT ON ARGENTINA. HE STATED USG REPORT IS MORE CRUCIAL THAN UN OR OAS REPORTS. VIOLA'S CONCERN WAS WORDING OF US REPORT COULD PRECIPITATE A WAVE OF EMOTIONALISM AND ANTI-AMERICANISM IF ARGENTINES FELT REPORT WAS AN UNFAIR EVALUATION OF COUNTRY. VIOLA TOLD ME VIOLA AND OTHER MEMBERS OF JUNTA ARE LIKEWISE PREOCCUPIED OVER TONOR OF OUR HUMAN

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RIGHTS REPORT. I TOLD VIOLA US REPORT NOT CONCLUDED THUS I WAS UNABLE TO COMMENT ON IT.

7. DISAPPEARED: VIOLA WAS MOST EMPHATIC IN TELLING ME GOA HAD NO SOLUTION TO PROBLEM OF DISAPPEARED. HE STATED MAKING AN ACCOUNTING OF DISAPPEARED WAS AN IMPOSSIBILITY FOR THEM. HE HOPED THIS WOULD NOT BE THE IRRITANT WHICH COULD PROVE TO BE THE INSURMOUNTABLE STUMBLING BLOCK IN RELATIONS BETWEEN BOTH COUNTRIES. VIOLA STATED HE HOPED GOA COULD BE JUDGED ON ITS PERFORMANCE NOW AND IN THE FUTURE. HE SPOKE CONFIDENTLY DISAPPEARED WAS A THING OF THE PAST. HE SAID THE 44 PERSONS WHO SUPPOSEDLY DISAPPEARED LAST YEAR WERE UNQUESTIONABLY HARD-CORE TERRORISTS.

8. VIOLA'S HEALTH: THE GENERAL APPEARED QUITE TRIM AS HE HAS LOST QUITE A FEW POUNDS. HE STATED HE WAS FEELING FINE AND HAD NO HEALTH PROBLEMS. HE NARRATED AN EPISODE ON HOW ELEVATORS IN HIS APARTMENT WEREN'T WORKING SO HE CLIMBED SIX FLOORS. HE SAID AT THE END OF THE JOURNEY HE WAS BREATHING HARD BUT FELT FINE.

e.

CASTRO

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